

February 1.

## W. A. WILCOX DEAD

Was Well Known to Fishing Interest of the Country.

Organized First Fish Bureau in This City in 1883.

The many friends of Mr. William A. Wilcox of the United States Bureau of Fisheries will regret to learn that he departed this life at Washington, D. C., last Sunday at 1.30 o'clock at the age of about 70 years.

Funeral services were held last Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock at the funeral parlors of Frey Bros., 18301 14th street, N. W., Washington, after which the body was sent to his boyhood home, Middlebury, Vt., where it was interred in the family lot.

Mr. Wilcox was one of the pioneers of the United States Fish Commission, and his whole career since 1878 has been one of close connection with the fishing interest of the country.

He was a native of Saratoga Springs, N. Y., moving to Middlebury, Vt., when a boy. For several years he was engaged in business in Memphis, Tenn., and St. Louis, Mo., part of the time being engaged in steamboating on the Mississippi river and its tributaries. In 1872 he came to Boston and connected himself with the fish firm of Franklin Snow & Co., and when that concern organized the Boston Fish Bureau, he was called to take charge of it. Many former attempts had failed, but he proved himself the right man in the right place, and built it on such a firm foundation and business principles that it has been a success ever since and a power in the fish world.

From 1878 to 1884 he was secretary of the Boston Fish Bureau and after that he came to this city and in January, 1885, organized the American Fish Bureau here, of which organization he was secretary until December, 1887. He also carried on the work of collecting information for that bureau and also for the United States Fish Commission.

In the latter part of 1887, the local bureau here went out of existence and Mr. Wilcox, who had been local agent of the United States Fish Commission in connection with his other duties, was appointed a regular agent of the commission, which position he held until the time of his death, with credit to himself and the department. He was an indefatigable worker and literally died in the harness.

In December, 1887, he was directed to obtain special information in Maine and Massachusetts for the International Fisheries Commission, and his work in this instance was exceptionally thorough and brilliant. On the completion of this, he was ordered to Washington for office duty, where he remained until June, 1888, when he was assigned to field work in Massachusetts.

Following this he was sent to canvas the fisheries of the Pacific coast, and since then his duties have taken him in every part of the country where fishing is carried on, including periodical four year trips to this city, where his friends were always glad to see him and give him every facility for conducting his work. Few men in the employ of the government had a wider circle of friends and those directly and indirectly connected with the fisheries than Mr. Wilcox.

A good faithful public servant has gone to his reward. By his friends and associates he will be greatly missed, but his memory will long remain with them.

February 1.

## DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Vessels Sailed.

Today's Fish Market.

Market price large western cod to split, \$2.25 per cwt., medium do., \$1.50. Large eastern cod, \$2.25, medium do., \$1.50.

Fresh round pollock, 70c per cwt. Salt bank dory handline cod, \$4.50 per cwt. for large, \$3.50 for mediums and \$2.75 for snappers.

Fresh hake, \$1.10 per cwt. Bank halibut, 14 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray. Salt herring, in bulk, \$2.50 per bbl. Frozen herring, (cargo lots,) \$2.25 per cwt.

Boston.

Sch. Seaconnet, 6000 haddock, 500 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Moonam, 14,000 haddock, 8000 cod, 3000 hake.

Sch. Lucania, 25,000 haddock, 5000 cod, 4000 cusk.

Sch. Genesta, 5000 haddock, 2000 hake.

Sch. Mattie Brundage, 1500 haddock, 700 cod, 800 hake, 600 cusk.

Sch. Wodan, 400 cod.

Sch. Arthur James, frozen herring from Gloucester.

Haddock, \$4 to \$6.50 per cwt.; large cod, \$5 to \$7; market cod, \$2.50 to \$4; hake, \$4 to \$7; cusk, \$2.50 to \$4.

February 3.

## HERRING NOTES.

Last Craft Loaded and Sailed from Bay of Islands.

The Bay of Islands, N. F., Western Star of Wednesday has the following herring items:

"Bishop & Monroe's vessel Ionia, Capt. Rowe, which sailed from Bay of Islands, on the 9th inst., with a cargo of frozen herring on Halifax, was 13 days on the passage, having got quite a knocking about in the succession of storms that prevailed during that period.

"This season has been a pretty open one to date, and so far as we can learn there is no Gulf ice in sight from any part of the west coast up to Port Saunders.

"Sch. Francis Willard, loading frozen herring for St. John, N. B., came from North Arm to Middle Arm on Saturday, where she finished loading the same day, and sailed from there Monday. This closes the herring fishery, so far as concerns vessels, for this season."

Sch. Athlete has completed the discharge of her frozen herring cargo into the freezer here.

The British schs. Eva June and Muriel M. Young have completed the discharge of their frozen herring cargoes at Boston.

February 3.

## FANCY PRICES.

Highest of Season for Fish at T Wharf.

Schs. Natalie J. Nelson and Susan and Mary Will Benefit.

They are just wild for fish at T wharf today. It is Monday, with cold, blowy weather and only about 110,000 pounds of fish there in six vessels.

This makes the prices there today the highest of the season, and schs. Natalie J. Nelson, Capt. Albert Larkin, and Susan and Mary, Capt. Freeman Decker, the former with 50,000 and the latter with 30,000 pounds, will make big stocks, the former the largest of the season, probably.

Haddock are going at \$6 and \$7 per hundred weight; cod at from \$5.50 to \$8; hake from \$4 to \$7; pollock, \$5 and cusk \$4.50; fancy prices surely and high enough to suit the most hungry fishermen.

February 3.

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## Getting Rich Digging Bait.

Fishermen in Wellfleet are reaping a harvest in furnishing the Provincetown fishermen with razor fish for bait. Even the school boys make \$2 and \$3 a day digging after hours. The average fisherman will dig about nine buckets a day, which will open three buckets of meat, and will sell for \$3 a bucket. It is said that the razor fish found at Wellfleet are the largest and best meat of any on the Cape, and always demand about 20 per cent. more than at other places.

February 3.

## Big Lobster.

The aquarium in New York city has received the biggest lobster it has had in years, this giant specimen, which came from Cranberry Isle, Me., measuring in length from the tip of its feelers to the tip of its tail, 34 inches. Its big crushing claw is 14 inches in circumference and about a foot in length, or as big as an ordinary sized lobster. The lobster's weight is 14 1-2 pounds.

February 3.

## Fish Receipts.

The report of the Bureau of Fisheries for December shows that for that month 930,845 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$34,289 and 6,166,422 pounds of salt fish valued at \$103,661 were landed at this port and 5,421,000 pounds of fresh fish valued at \$184,727 landed at Boston.

February 3.

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Fresh round pollock, 70c per cwt. Salt bank dory handline cod, \$4.50 per cwt. for large, \$3.50 for mediums and \$2.75 for snappers.

Fresh hake, \$1.10 per cwt. Bank halibut, 14 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray.

Salt herring, in bulk, \$2.50 per bbl. Frozen herring, (cargo lots,) \$2.25 per cwt.

Boston.

Sch. Natalie J. Nelson, 45,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Minerva, 4000 haddock, 1000 cod, 1000 hake, 1000 cusk, 500 pollock.

Sch. Pontiac, 3000 haddock, 1000 cod, 500 hake.

Sch. Susan and Mary, 28,000 haddock, 2500 cod.

Sch. Galatea, 1500 haddock, 500 cod, 4000 hake.

Sch. Mary C. Santos, 12,000 haddock, 2500 cod, 1500 hake.

Sch. Elva L. Spurling, 4000 haddock, 8000 cod.

Haddock, \$6 to \$7 per cwt.; large cod, \$7 to \$8; market cod, \$5.50 to \$7; hake, \$4 to \$7; cusk \$4.50; pollock, \$5.

February 4.

## SKY HIGH PRICES.

Bad Weather and Few Arrivals Make Fish a Luxury.

Markets Ask 15 Cents Per Pound for Cod and Haddock.

Bad weather and few arrivals make fresh fish a luxury just about now. Indeed, fish is dearer than meat, with the markets quoting haddock and cod at 15 cents per pound, and halibut at 30 cents, and hard to get at that.

At Boston today haddock from the vessel are bringing \$5 and \$6 per hundred weight, large cod \$8, market cod \$6.50, hake \$3 to \$7 and pollock \$4. Of course there is only a handful of fish there, and these prices are for new goods. There simply isn't anywhere near enough to go round and the dealers are all hungry for them.

February 1.

## BRITISH CABINET RAPPED.

Newfoundland Legislature Adopted Resolutions.

A despatch from St. John's, N. F., says: The legislative tonight discussed at length resolutions protesting against the action of the imperial cabinet in "overriding the constitutional rights of the colony," by concluding the modus vivendi with the United States governing the fisheries of the west coast, in which American vessels are chiefly interested.

The action of the British government in promulgating an order in council suspending certain constitutional privileges respecting the fisheries is also deplored in the resolutions.

It is thought that the resolutions will be adopted by a practically unanimous vote, as all the members who have spoken thus far favored them.



February 4.

**STANDING COMMITTEES ON FISHERIES.** In the Canadian House of Commons, a few days ago a member from one of the fishing provinces introduced a bill for the appointment of a standing committee on fisheries to which could be referred, from time to time, all matters dealing with the marine and fisheries.

It is understood that this bill was introduced to head off the idea of the appointment of fishery boards for different localities, of which latter there is some question as to the ultimate benefit to all concerned.

Few, if any countries, guard and foster their fisheries any better than Canada and with them matters affecting the marine and fisheries are of prime importance, taking precedence over everything.

This idea of a general committee to which all matters in this line might be referred appears to be a good one and would seem to work much better and produce more beneficial and lasting results than if this authority were divided between various boards in different section of the Dominion. Such a plan would undoubtedly work to advantage here, especially as regards laws relating to the size, taking and shipping of lobsters, clams, oysters, smelt and other fish and crustaceans, which would be uniform and not conflicting. There are states that even have laws that certain fish in certain localities near shore can only be taken by men and boats of that state, to the exclusion of others, which does not seem just right.

Nobody doubts that a lobster law to apply the same to all the Newfoundland states would be a benefit to the business and help solve the problem of the preservation of this rapidly disappearing shell fish.

Of course the old cry of state rights might be raised in some quarters, but that would not alter the facts as to what would be best for all concerned.

February 4.

### DAILY TIMES FISH BUREAU.

#### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. John Hays Hammond, haddocking, 40,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Emily Cooney, shore.

Sch. Thomas Brundage, shore.

Sch. Galatea, via Boston.

#### Vessels Sailed.

Sch. Margaret Dillon, shore.

#### Today's Fish Market.

Market price large western cod to split, \$2.25 per cwt., medium do., \$1.50.

Large eastern cod, \$2.25, medium do., \$1.50.

Fresh round pollock, 70c per cwt.

Salt bank dory handline cod, \$4.50 per cwt. for large, \$3.50 for mediums and \$2.75 for snappers.

Fresh hake, \$1.10 per cwt.

Bank halibut, 14 cts. per lb. for white and 10 cts. for gray.

Salt herring, in bulk, \$2.50 per bbl.

Frozen herring, (cargo lots,) \$2.25 per cwt.

#### Boston.

Sch. Mary A. Whalen, 35,000 haddock, 5000 cod.

Sch. Louise C. Cabral, 5000 haddock, 500 cod, 700 hake.

Sch. Hope, 25,000 haddock, 2500 cod.

Sch. Mabel Bryson, 1200 haddock, 4100 cod.

Sch. Florida, 7000 cod.

Sch. Catherine D. Enos, 8000 cod.

Sch. Terra Nova, 30,000 haddock, 5000 cod, 5000 hake, 8000 cusk.

Sch. Valentina, 1500 haddock, 1500 cod.

Sch. Viking.

Haddock, \$5 to \$6 per cwt.; large cod, \$8 market cod, \$6.50; hake, \$3 to \$7; pollock, \$4.

February 5.

#### Badly Iced Up.

Sch. Ella M. Goodwin, which arrived here from Le Have bank last evening, was considerably iced up.

All the off shore fleet at Boston yesterday, as well as the shore boats in there today, were heavily coated with ice.

February 5.

### Sch. Hope at Boston Yesterday Had About 2000 Pounds.

#### Largest Catch of This Scarce Fish Made for Years.

The little sch. Hope, which arrived at T wharf, Boston, yesterday from the southwest part of Georges, beside her big fare of haddock, had a most remarkable catch in the shape of about 2000 pounds of tile fish.

Once in a while, a vessel from this fishing ground has brought in three or four of these very scarce fish, which were once abundant but seemed to disappear almost entirely a number of years ago, but it has been a long, long time since any craft has caught such a large amount as sch. Hope brought in.

The tile fish are splendid eating and the matter of their disappearance and probable whereabouts at present is a question which has been investigated and considered very seriously by the authorities at the Bureau of Fisheries at Washington.

Indeed efforts were made, a few years ago, to locate the habitat of these fish, the fish commission sch. Grampus being engaged in this work, but meeting with no great success.

It is on account of the fact that the fish are very fine eating and would make a valuable addition to the list of marketable fish in these waters that the commission has been so anxious to again locate them, and it is probable that the captain of the Hope will be called upon to give the commission a detailed account of how, when and where he made the remarkable haul.

What few tile fish have been brought in the past few years, have been taken, not on Georges bank, but off the bank, a little to the southward. As sch. Hope was known to have had a set just off the edge of the bank and there struck the tile fish. The captain's full report will be interesting and valuable.

#### STRUCK IT RICH.

#### Crew of Sch. Mary T. Fallon Received \$100 for Day's Work.

Sch. Mary T. Fallon struck it rich at T wharf yesterday. She came in after the bell rang and had 8000 pounds of fish, taken in one set on the shore, Monday. There was a spirited bidding and as a result the skipper sold the fare at seven cents per pound for everything he had, right through, getting nearly \$600 for the day's work, which is big pay for one set of the trawls.

February 5.

### GOOD HERRING WEATHER.

#### Cold Snap Pleases the Owners of Frozen Cargoes.

#### Present Location of the Vessels with Fish Yet Unloaded.

Sch. Vera will complete the discharge of her cargo of frozen herring today at Boston.

Sch. Harvard sailed yesterday for Philadelphia, where she will market her cargo of frozen herring.

Sch. Maggie and May has completed the discharge of her cargo of frozen herring at Boston.

The vessels now at Boston discharging frozen herring cargoes are schs. Lena and Maud, Smuggler, Arthur James, Hiram Lowell and the British schs. Douglass Adams and Aldine.

At New York herring are going a little better since the cold snap and the four vessels have about 600,000 pounds out.

At this port with cargoes yet to be taken out at some port are schs. Arkona, Aloha, Oregon, Blanche, Veda M. McKown, T. M. Nicholson, George Parker and Senator Gardner.

Br. sch. Jennie May, from Bay of Islands, N. F., with frozen herring, arrived at Halifax the latter part of last month and will take out there.

Sch. T. M. Nicholson will go to Philadelphia with her cargo of frozen herring, and sch. George Parker will go to Boston to discharge in her turn. One of Davis Bros.' three cargoes will probably go to New York.

Sch. Lena and Maud will complete the discharge of her cargo of frozen herring at Boston, today.

February 5.

### WATER COMMISSIONERS.

#### Will Ask City Council for Appropriation for Ingersoll Award.

#### Organization of the Board for Coming Year Deferred.

The water commissioners last night approved the labor and salary payrolls of the week to the amount of \$312.68, the smallest amount expended since the beginning of the new year. The bills for the month, which were also approved, amounted to \$699.43, a total of \$1012.11.

Under the law the board is expected to reorganize some time during the month of February in each year, and after discussing the matter, it was decided to defer action for the present.

Several matters in connection with the running of the plant were discussed, but no action will be taken pending the presentation and adoption of the annual order of appropriations.

In accordance with the expressed wish of Mayor Parsons, who has failed to approve of the action of the board in paying the heirs of the late John H. Ingersoll the sum of \$500 for any liability the city may have had in the accident which caused his death, the board voted to make a recommendation to the city council direct, asking that this sum be allowed, the same to be charged to the maintenance account. The order will be presented at the meeting of the aldermen on Friday evening.

#### IN GULF OF MEXICO.

#### Pensacola Fishing Fleet Report Two Weeks of Storms.

After one of the hardest trips of the season, so all the captains said, six fishing schooners of Pensacola arrived in port on January 23. They were gone from 20 to 25 days each, being badly delayed by the stormy weather on the gulf during the past two weeks. Nearly all had their rigging injured in some way or other, but fortunately the damage was not great, and they were able to repair it immediately in most instances.

Several of the boats had their topmast broken off by the wind, but all weathered the storm in good shape and brought in large cargoes of red snappers.

February 5.

### HARBOR IS FROZEN.

#### Ice Fields Extends Out to the Copper Paint Factory.

#### Floe as Yet Is Not of Very Great Thickness.

The effect of the extra cold weather of the past few days is now rapidly showing itself in the harbor. When it struck, several of the docks were frozen over, but not very solid. These began to gradually take on a closer embargo and the ice began to spread in the inner harbor. First it crept out around Five Pound Island and all day yesterday was slowly working out to the westward.

Last night's cold greatly increased its area, and this morning it had reached out as far as the Tarr & Wonson copper paint factory at Rocky Neck and to the Gloucester Gas Co.'s wharf on the city proper side. Today the ice is still making and should the cold continue for a few days, the ice field will stretch out well toward the outer harbor.

Although the ice floe has reached out as above mentioned, it does not appear to have as yet attained any great thickness, for this morning the ferry boat Little Giant was running and yesterday one of the tugboats had little difficulty in getting up to the wharf at the former Shute & Merchant plant.

February 5.

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#### Today's Arrivals and Receipts.

Sch. Ella M. Goodwin, Le Have bank 25,000 lbs. fresh fish.

Sch. Massasoit, shore.

Sch. Maggie and May, via Boston.